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THE PINK SHEET

Your Biweekly Report from Prospect House

November 26, 1973
Washington, D.C.
Issue #66

NEW FILM PROMOTES "RIGHT WING PLOT" THEORY OF KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

One of the most highly publicized attempts to build the KENNEDY family mystique and exploit the tenth anniversary of the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY is a new movie called "Executive Action." The film uses a phony "documentary" approach to try to portray the assassination as the result of a right-wing conspiracy.

It is not surprising that nearly everybody connected with this blatant left-wing propaganda movie has a long record of involvement in radical causes. The movie was based on a novel by MARK LANE and DONALD FREED. The screenplay is by DALTON TRUMBO. One of the producers was DAN BESSIE. The three main actors are BURT LANCASTER, ROBERT RYAN and WILL GEER. Here is a run-down on those individuals.

- * MARK LANE is best known for his book "Rush to Judgment" and his persistent criticism of the Warren Commission Report. He was previously executive director of the Communist front National Lawyers Guild. He was vice presidential candidate of the ultra-leftist Peace and Freedom Party and a legal advisor to JANE FONDA. His record of Communist-front involvement is almost endless.
- * DONALD FREED, a former UCLA instructor, is a veteran Southern California leftist agitator. He was once arrested for illegal possession of weapons which were allegedly destined for the Black Panther Party, which he publicly supported through its most violent phases. His other literary activities on behalf of leftist causes include a play, "The United States vs Ethel and Julius Rosenberg," which attempts to vindicate the convicted Soviet spies, and the current book, "Agony in New Haven," an account of a trial of Black Panthers so laden with Marxist rhetoric as to repel even liberal reviewers.
- * DALTON TRUMBO was one of the original "Hollywood Ten" cited and "black-listed" for Communist activity in the early 1950's. His devotion to radical causes has remained true through the years. Though he was "blacklisted," he continued to work under assumed names. Just this year he chaired a National Peace Action Coalition rally in Los Angeles.
- * DAN BESSIE is the son of longtime Communist Party member ALVAN BESSIE. DAN writes for the Party's west coast newspaper, Peoples World.
- * BURT LANCASTER is a well-known liberal, but he has no record of involvement in questionable or Communist-front activity.
- * The late ROBERT RYAN dabbled in such leftist causes as endorsing the "Peoples Peace Treaty," a 1971 Hanoi creation, speaking at a 1971 meeting of the Communist-influenced "Publishers for Peace" and backing the Trotskyite Communist "National Peace Action Coalition."
- * WILL GEER (who plays the lovable grandfather on the popular TV series, "The Waltons") has an extensive radical background. GEER was identified as a member of the Communist Party, USA, by HAROLD ASHE, in sworn testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in September, 1951. GEER himself took the Fifth Amendment when asked by the Committee about Party membership in April, 1951. In addition to a Communist front record going back to the 1930's, WILL GEER was an active participant in the